

U.S. Application No. 09/364,638  
Reply to Office Action of May 1, 2006

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IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. An identifier indicating the status of each claim is provided.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-44. (canceled)

Claim 45. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:

a processor for executing a booting program to start up said information processing apparatus;

a non-removable data storage located in said information processing apparatus for storing said booting program and first data accessible by said booting program; and another data storage for storing second data accessible by said booting program, the other data storage comprising a recording medium removably connected to said information processing apparatus,

wherein said processor selectively uses said first data stored in said non-removable data storage or said second data stored in said other data storage according to said booting program to start up said information processing apparatus, said other data storage being capable of data communication with said information processing apparatus, [[;]]

wherein said first data and said second data are startup image data, and

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wherein said processor selectively displays an image of said first data or an image of said second data on a display according to said booting program in starting up said information processing apparatus before an application program is executed.

Claims 46-47. (canceled)

Claim 48. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 45, wherein said second data includes at least one of image data and sound data.

Claim 49. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 45, wherein said processor displays an image of said first data on a display in starting up said information processing apparatus when said recording medium is not connected to said information processing apparatus, and said processor displays an image of said second data on said display in starting up said information processing apparatus when said recording medium is connected to said information processing apparatus.

Claim 50. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 45, wherein the other data storage for storing said second data is a portable electronic device.

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Claim 51. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus comprising:  
a processor for executing a booting program to start up said information processing apparatus; and  
a communication unit for data communication with a plurality of data storages for storing data, one of said data storages being a non-removable data storage located in said information processing apparatus for storing said booting program, and at least one other of said data storages being capable of data communication with said information processing apparatus,

wherein said processor selectively uses said data stored in said plurality of data storages according to said booting program to start up said information processing apparatus,

[[;]]

wherein said data stored in said plurality of data storages are startup image data, and

wherein said processor selectively displays an image of said data stored in said plurality of data storages on a display according to said booting program in starting up said information processing apparatus before an application program is executed.

Claim 52. (canceled)

Claim 53. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 51, wherein the at least one other of said data storages is a portable electronic device.

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Claim 54. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 51,  
wherein said data stored in said plurality of data storages are image data, and  
wherein said processor sequentially displays images of said data stored in said plurality of data storages on a display according to said booting program in starting up said information processing apparatus.

Claim 55. (currently amended) A method of starting up an information processing apparatus, comprising the steps of:  
executing a booting program;  
selecting data from first data stored in a non-removable data storage of said information processing apparatus and second data stored in another data storage according to said booting program, wherein the other data storage for storing said second data comprises a recording medium removably connected to said information processing apparatus, said other data storage being capable of data communication with said information processing apparatus;  
starting up said information processing apparatus using the selected data [[;]]  
wherein said first data and said second data are startup image data; and  
displaying an image of the selected image data on a display according to said booting program in starting up said information processing apparatus before an application program is executed.

Claims 56-57. (canceled)

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Claim 58. (previously presented) A method according to claim 55, wherein said second data includes at least one of image data and sound data.

Claim 59. (previously presented) A method according to claim 55, wherein an image of said first data is displayed on a display in starting up said information processing apparatus when said recording medium is not connected to said information processing apparatus, and an image of said second data is displayed on said display in starting up said information processing apparatus when said recording medium is connected to said information processing apparatus.

Claim 60. (previously presented) A method according to claim 55, wherein the other data storage for storing said second data is a portable electronic device.

Claim 61. (currently amended) A method of starting up an information processing apparatus, comprising the steps of:  
executing a booting program;  
establishing data communication with a plurality of data storages for storing data, one of said data storages being a non-removable data storage located in said information processing apparatus for storing said booting program;  
selecting data from data stored in said plurality of data storages according to said booting program, at least one other of said data storages being capable of data communication with said information processing apparatus;

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starting up said information processing apparatus using the selected data, [[;]]  
wherein said data stored in said plurality of data storages are image data; and  
displaying an image of the selected data on a display according to said booting  
program in starting up said information processing apparatus before an application program is  
executed.

Claim 62. (canceled)

Claim 63. (previously presented) A method according to claim 61,  
wherein at least one of said plurality of data storages is a portable electronic device.

Claim 64. (currently amended) A method according to claim 61, wherein  
said data stored in said plurality of data storages are image data, said method further  
comprising the step of:

displaying images of said data stored in said plurality of data storages  
sequentially on a display according to said booting program in starting up said information  
processing apparatus.

Claim 65. (currently amended) A method of starting up an information  
processing apparatus, comprising the steps of:

transmitting variable boot data to the information processing apparatus, to be  
executed according to a boot sequence by the information processing apparatus which

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executes a program to process data, said variable boot data being stored in a recording medium that is removably inserted in the information processing apparatus; and storing invariable boot data in a non-removable boot execution storage means located in the information processing apparatus; and selectively booting the information processing apparatus according to the booting sequence based on one of said variable boot data transmitted from said recording medium and said invariable boot data in said boot execution storage means; and displaying an image on a display according to the selected booting operation in starting up said information processing apparatus before an application program is executed. wherein said boot data stored in said recording medium comprises a startup image display program.

Claim 66. (canceled)

Claim 67. (previously presented) A method according to claim 65, wherein said information processing apparatus has transmission data storage means for storing the boot data transmitted from said recording medium.

Claim 68. (canceled)

Claim 69. (previously presented) A method according to claim 65, wherein said recording medium comprises a memory card having control means for managing data.

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Claim 70. (previously presented) A method according to claim 65, wherein said information processing apparatus comprises a video game apparatus.

Claim 71. (currently amended) A recording medium for storing data, which is removably inserted in an information processing apparatus which executes a program to process data, said recording medium comprising:

memory means for storing variable boot data to be executed according to a boot sequence by the information processing apparatus when the information processing apparatus is booted;

transmitting means for transmitting the boot data stored by said memory means to said information processing apparatus; and

control means for managing data,

wherein said information processing apparatus comprises a non-removable data storage for storing invariable boot data and a booting program for executing said boot sequence, said booting program selectively booting the information processing apparatus according to the booting sequence based on one of said variable boot data transmitted from said recording medium and said invariable boot data and displaying an image on a display according to the selected booting operation in starting up said information processing apparatus before an application program is executed.

~~wherein said boot data stored in said recording medium comprises a startup image display program.~~

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Claim 72. (canceled)

Claim 73. (previously presented) A recording medium according to claim 71, wherein said recording medium comprises a memory card for storing data generated by said information processing apparatus.

Claim 74. (previously presented) A recording medium according to claim 71, wherein said information processing apparatus comprises a video game apparatus.

Claim 75. (currently amended) An information processing apparatus for processing data, comprising:

a removable storage means comprising a recording medium removably inserted in said information processing apparatus, said recording medium storing variable boot data;

boot execution storage means for storing boot data to be executed according to a boot sequence as invariable boot data;

reading means for reading said variable boot data, to be executed when the information processing apparatus is booted, stored in said recording medium;

boot data storage means, comprising a non-removable data storage means located in said information processing apparatus, for selectively storing said invariable boot data or the boot data read from said recording medium; and

booting means for executing the boot data stored in said boot data storage means according to a boot sequence and for displaying an image on a display according to the

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boot data stored in said boot data storage means in starting up said information processing apparatus before an application program is executed.

~~wherein said boot data stored in said recording medium comprises a startup image display program.~~

Claims 76-77. (canceled)

Claim 78. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 75, wherein said recording medium comprises a memory card having control means for managing data.

Claim 79. (previously presented) An information processing apparatus according to claim 75, wherein the information processing apparatus comprises a video game apparatus.

Claims 80-84. (canceled)